

## REMARKS

No claims have been added by this Amendment. Claims 2, 5, 6, 11-37, 39, 41-43, 48-74, 78, 79, 80, 85, 111, 113, 116, 117, and 128-148. Therefore upon entry of this instant Amendment claims 1-10, 38-47, 75-84 and 112-121 will be pending.

Claims 8, 9, 45, 46, 82, 83, 119, and 120 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner for the allowable subject matter.

Applicant has amended the claims to include the allowable subject matter to place the application in condition for allowance.

- configuration data indicating said bridge is to operate in VLAN aware mode;
- packet in a priority tagged format containing an associated VLAN identifier;
- setting said VLAN identifier associated with said packet to equal an identifier associated with an incoming port on which said packet is received;
- searching an address table having at least a field to store data representing said VLAN identifier using a destination address and said VLAN identifier to determine a destination port; and
- sending said packet on said destination port.

Applicant believes this application and the claims herein to be in a condition for allowance.

Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance or timely Advisory Action. Please charge any additional fees, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0668. Should the Examiner have further inquiry concerning these matters, please contact the below named attorney for Applicants.

Respectfully submitted:

/Steven A. Shaw/

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